

# UC-Berkeley, People's Cafe strike deal

TUE JUL 18 1989

By William Brand  
The Tribune

**BERKELEY** — The University of California will allow the religious collective now operating the People's Cafe in People's Park to move the operation to a university-owned parking lot on Dwight Way, a block west of the park.

According to terms of the agreement, reached by UC-Berkeley, the City of Berkeley and the Berkeley Catholic Worker, the collective will be allowed to continue operating its free cafe for the homeless on People's Park until arrangements can be made to move their 66-foot trailer to the new site west of the University Parking office at 2427 Dwight Way.

Dorothy Walker, director of community planning for UC-Berkeley, confirmed the deal late last night. She said an agreement had been reached to give the City of Berkeley a three-year lease on the property. The city, in turn, has agreed to lease the site to the collective.

City Manager Hal Cronkite last night said he had not yet been informed of the university's decision, which apparently was made late yesterday by Vice Chancellor Dan Boggan.

Cronkite said that the city would require the Catholic Worker to obtain a use permit for the move.

"We hope to be going to the Board of Adjustments in August," Cronkite said. "This hearing will give the public a time for comment."

Catholic Worker spokesman John Cooper said last night that the collective welcomed the university and city offer wholeheartedly.

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"We think it's a magnanimous gesture on the part of the university," Cooper said. "And we thank them for their forbearance. I think for us this is a new beginning."

The loosely knit group of more than 30 volunteers and three spokespersons, who draw small salaries, has been feeding free breakfasts for more than two years to the homeless who congregate in the south campus area.

Early on May 6, they moved a new, 66-foot-long blue trailer into People's Park, hastily put up signs proclaiming it the "People's Cafe" and began serving breakfast.

The university served notice the collective was in the park illegally and went to court to get them evicted. Collective members said they chose the radical move only after seeking a site somewhere in the area for more than a year and being turned down by everyone.

Eventually, the university dismissed its lawsuit and instead chose to negotiate with the collective and the City of Berkeley.

The collective gets funds from donations by local Catholic churches and from private citizens.



# People's Cafe move opposed by would-be neighbors

WED JUL 19 1989

By William Brand  
The Tribune

**BERKELEY** — The City of Berkeley's tentative agreement to help the University of California relocate the People's Cafe from People's Park to a parking lot on Dwight Way drew fire at last night's City Council meeting.

Owners of the two Victorian houses converted to offices for therapists at 2424 and 2428 Dwight Way — across the street from the proposed new site of the cafe that feeds the homeless — said their tenants already have enough problems caused by the homeless in the area.

In interviews later in the evening, Paul Justison, and his wife, Karen Saeger, a psychotherapist, owners of 2428 Dwight, and Jane Lundin, owner of 2424 Dwight, said there are constant problems now.

The city plans to schedule a public hearing on the cafe move next month before the Board of Adjustments. The facility provides free breakfasts for the

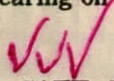
homeless.

The council also heard strong testimony from residents of south and west Berkeley and from the Berkeley Police Department urging council members to abolish the city's marijuana law.

The law, passed in the late 1970s makes enforcement of state marijuana laws a low priority for Berkeley police. The city's Police Review Commission held a hearing on the subject, then voted 6-1 to support keeping the law on the books.

Sgt. Douglas Hambleton, speaking for the Berkeley police department, said the ordinance sends the message to young people that some drug use is OK.

Jim Smith, of the Berkeley Black Property Owners' Association, said people in drug-plagued areas of the city are concerned about that mixed message. He asked the council to set a public hearing on the matter.

  
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Also at last night's marathon session, the council agreed to hold a special meeting tonight at 8 p.m. in the council chambers to debate a city proposal to use \$400,000 in funds from the West Berkeley redevelopment budget to buy the Berkeley Inn, a burned-out residence hotel at Telegraph Avenue and Haste Street.

The city wants to convert the building to 80 units of low-income housing for single people.

# Homeless' cafe site opposed

WED JUL 26 1989

The Tribune

**BERKELEY** — Berkeley's tentative agreement to help the University of California relocate the People's Cafe from People's Park to a parking lot on Dwight Way drew fire at a recent City Council meeting.

Owners of two Victorian houses converted to offices for therapists at 2424 and 2428 Dwight Way — across the street from the proposed new site of the cafe that feeds the homeless — said their tenants already have enough problems caused by the homeless in the area.

In interviews after the meeting, Paul Justison, and his wife, Karen Saeger, a psychotherapist, owners of the building at 2428 Dwight, and Jane Lundin, owner of the 2424 Dwight Victorian, said there are constant problems now.



# Impasse over hours threatens People's Cafe

THU NOV - 2 1989

By Terry Link  
The Tribune

BERKELEY — Negotiations to move the People's Cafe from People's Park to a nearby site owned by the University of California have reached an impasse, threatening the entire project.

John Cooper, director of the cafe operated by the Catholic Workers, said the organization will not agree to move unless they can be open evenings.

"We are going to draw battle lines. We can't allow the hours of service to be dictated by the university," Cooper said yesterday.

He said the cafe, which until now has been open only during morning hours, would also open from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and Sundays, beginning last night.

UC Vice Chancellor Dan Bogan, who heads the university's negotiating teams, did not return phone calls yesterday.

Catholic Workers placed the cafe, a cheerily decorated 60-foot mobile home, in the park last spring to serve free food and coffee to homeless people who gather in People's Park.

UC officials threatened to remove the structure, but so far have not done so.

Negotiations last July seemed to clear the way for UC to lease property at 2427 Dwight Way to the city, which in turn would sublet the site to the Catholic Workers for their cafe.

"We thought we had a deal," Cooper said.

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But when UC presented its lease terms to the city, they included a requirement that the cafe close by 5 p.m., Cooper said.

Peggy Kiriara, an associate analyst with the city manager's office, called the closing time "a major sore point" in the negotiations.

An accord signed Monday between the city and UC calls for the campus to lease the property on Dwight Way for \$1 per year for three years.

"The city will cooperate with the campus in relocating the cafe currently operated by the Catholic Workers at People's Park to that site," the accord stated.

Cooper said an evening opening for the cafe had been in the Catholic Worker plans from the beginning.

"In the evening, people have nowhere to go until the shelter opens at 10 p.m.," Cooper said.

# UC firm on People's Cafe

ERI NOV 3 1989  
The Tribune

BERKELEY — University of California Vice Chancellor Dan Boggan said yesterday that the university remains insistent that the People's Cafe, operated by the Catholic Worker group to feed the homeless in the south campus area, must close by 5 p.m.

"We have always said we would not support running the cafe beyond normal business hours ... We are not going to have them open until 10 o'clock," Boggan said.

The dispute over hours of operation has created a stalemate in efforts to move the cafe out of People's Park to a nearby lot owned by UC.

John Cooper, manager of the cafe, said the Catholic Workers would not agree to move if their hours of operation would be restricted.

Boggan said the 5 p.m. closing time was required "to moderate opposition from the neighbors."

The cafe was set up in People's Park last spring in defiance of the university, but so far UC has not attempted to forcibly remove it.

"Ultimately, they will have to move," Boggan said.

Boggan also said that he believes a facility which UC and the city propose to establish about 2.5 miles from People's Park will be successful in attracting many of the homeless who now congregate in the park.

"People's habits can change," he said.

If the homeless know they can get food and shelter, have lockers for their belongings and employment opportunities at the center, "I think people will use the service," Boggan said.



# Berkeley fed up: gets tough with row

WED JAN 24 1990

By William Brand  
The Tribune

**B**ERKELEY — THIS traditionally tolerant university city is going to get a lot tougher toward the growing numbers of problem homeless and street people along Telegraph Avenue and in People's Park.

Michael Brown, who took over as city manager here three weeks ago, said the city and UC-Berkeley plan to double the number of officers they have walking beats on Telegraph in the evening to a total of eight.

Homeless and street people, who aren't causing problems, won't be bothered, Brown said.

But aggressive panhandlers, those drinking alcohol and using drugs are Park nearby.

going to be told to move on. And if they don't, Brown said, they'll be arrested.

The new Berkeley police patrol starts work Sunday evening. UC will add police when funding is secured.

Meanwhile, UC-Berkeley vice chancellor Dan Boggin said the university intends to forcibly and abruptly evict a cafe that feeds the homeless from People's Park.

The cafe, which was moved onto the park last May without permission, is providing free breakfast for about 200 homeless people each morning.

The homeless, attracted by People's Cafe and other homeless services in the area, their numbers swelled by

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the October earthquake, now have encampments on city parking strips around the park and in thickets of trees at the west end of the park.

Brown's decision to support police patrols and arrests is an apparent turnabout from previous city policy of benign neglect.

The decision follows a rising wave of complaints from Telegraph merchants, shoppers and residents of the area. All have become alarmed at the sharp increase in the number of homeless and street people hanging out on Telegraph and at People's Park nearby.

Telegraph Avenue shoppers have complained about being harassed while simply walking down the street.

"When I've refused to give spare change, I've been called words I hadn't heard until a few months ago," one woman who works on Telegraph said.

Merchants at a sometimes heated private meeting with Brown, said their business is down substantially.

Rebecca Rhine, executive director of the Telegraph Avenue Merchants Association, said, "The city has more services to help the street people population

neighborhood than in any neighborhood in town. We want the city to provide us with increased city services."

Merchants and residents, said they are not opposed to helping the homeless.

"I feel every community ought to do what we (in Berkeley) do for the homeless," said

Ralph Sklar, who operates Uncle Ralph's, a large Telegraph electronics store.

"People in this area, myself included, are very concerned about the national homeless crisis. We are glad to be able to provide homeless shelters, shower programs and the other things

we do.

"The bad news is that a lot of other areas and cities don't provide services, so the homeless come here."

Merchants and distressed shoppers said they hope Brown stays out of politics and sticks to his guns.



# UC removes free cafe from People's Park

SUN MAR 11 1990

By Robert J. Lopez

The Tribune

BERKELEY — Saying it wants to make People's Park safer and more pleasant for everyone, the University of California early yesterday morning removed the controversial People's Cafe.

The 64-foot trailer, which served free food to some 200 homeless people daily, had been operating illegally since last May. It was towed away at 5:30 a.m. by contractors working under the guard of UC police, who cited three people at the scene for trespassing.

A spokesman for the Berkeley Catholic Workers organization, which ran the cafe, said he was not sure what would happen next.

"We're in shock," said spokesman John Cooper. "It's difficult to think of any game plan when you're in shock."

Since July, UC officials and Catholic Workers have disagreed over proposals to move the cafe from its 2427 Dwight Way location. Merchants, shoppers and residents in the area had complained frequently about sanitation concerns and the increasing number of home-

less people in the area.

"Sadly, the response from the 'cafe' sponsors has been adamant refusal (to move)," UC Vice Chancellor Dan Boggan said.

"And this has left no recourse — given increasingly critical problems and strong entreaties from the neighborhood — except to remove the 'cafe' and proceed with the next steps toward a better People's Park," he said in a written statement.

Cooper said relief workers refused to relocate the trailer because the university made "unacceptable" operating demands,

including restricting the hours that the cafe could operate.

Meanwhile, about 50 cafe supporters gathered at People's Park yesterday evening to protest the "theft of culture from Berkeley."

The peaceful gathering ended about 6:45 p.m. after the supporters marched to a 2804 Benvenue Ave. residence they said was Boggan's house.

The three people cited for trespassing were Stephen Deitch, 36, Cynthia Burd, 30, and 22-year-old Francine Cavanaugh, none of whom is affiliated with the university.



MON MAY - 7 1990

## Shades of the Klan here in Berkeley

PEOPLES CAFE

On the evening of March 10, my family and I had an experience which I would never have believed could occur in Berkeley, the capital of "free speech" and tolerance. It was the type of event that my father who was born in 1918 in Butler County, Ala., and his peers feared most. They had to be ever mindful of night riders in capes and hoods. They knew these masked riders brought no good tidings to any black man, only lynchings, burnings and intimidation.

At about 7 p.m. on the evening of March 10, I was confronted for the first time on a personal basis with the nature of terrorism and the tremendous impact that it can have on one and one's family. The sequence of events that evening are forever etched in my mind and that of my wife and my 11-year-old child. There were two factors which probably prevented a modern-day tragedy.

First, I had received a call that warned me that 65 to 75 people were leaving People's Park and coming to my house to demand that I return the cafe that had been removed that morning from the park. The second factor was even more fortunate for me and my family. There were three police officers in my house when the so-called demonstrators arrived.

Imagine trying to explain to an 11-year-old who is crying that she doesn't have anything to worry about and as I have her almost calmed down there comes a series of thunderous kicks at the front door. I couldn't believe that people were trying to kick my door down. They didn't stop until they saw a police officer come to the door. They became aware of that because one of them was peering into my window and yelled, "There are cops in the house." With that, they ran off the porch. I've asked myself a thousands times what would have been the fate of my family and the people who might have come through my door if no police had been on the premises that night.

Imagine these events happening while people are yelling and screaming and calling us unpleasant names. Imagine too that it's dark and some of the people involved are wearing masks a la the terrorist and anarchist who have been responsible for several fires and much property damage within the city of Berkeley.

I regret the newspapers' (Tribune and Daily Cal) insensitivity in printing my personal address the next day in the articles about the incident. I don't understand why that was necessary.

I thank God that the police were in my house when the mob arrived. Had they not been present, I hate to contemplate what might have happened and the suffering that no doubt would have followed. I hope that people who read this letter will reflect on it and work to stop this from happening to anyone else in our community. If we don't speak out against it, then we set the stage for it to happen again and again. Remember, the Ku Klux Klan came by night in hoods. The Nazis came by night as storm troopers. This group came to my house by night to intimidate and terrorize. Make no mistake about it, there are similarities which I will not ignore — nor should the rest of this community.

If we believe in free speech, then we cannot condone intimidating speech and acts. If we believe in freedom, then we cannot condone the senseless violence of the mob that would violate the personal security of any citizen or the sanctity of anyone's home.

I believe that the people of the Bay Area should know what happened on March 10. I also believe that they will understand my distress at what occurred. More than that, though, I hope as individuals we will never condone and always work to eliminate mob violence.

DANIEL BOGGAN JR.  
Vice Chancellor for Business  
and Administrative Services  
UC-Berkeley